## Q: What is the current wake regulation on Lake Alva?

A: Currently wake is not regulated on Lake Alva.

#### Q: Why did FWP propose a "no-wake" regulation for Lake Alva?

**A:** Public concern regarding existing boating regulations prompted FWP to propose a change in wake regulations. So, this past spring, FWP drafted a proposal for public comment that would put a year-round "no-wake" rule on Alva. "No-wake" means a speed where there is no "white water" in the immediate track or path of watercraft. The goal was to allow opportunity for those in search of a slower and quieter boating and fishing experience on a larger, accessible lake in the Clearwater Chain of Lakes. Lake Alva is surrounded by public land. Additionally, because common loons nest near or at the water surface, nesting success can be affected by wakes. A no-wake regulation would remove one of the threats to common loons on Lake Alva.

## Q: When did the original proposal go out for public comment?

**A:** In May/June 2013, FWP sought public input on a proposal to change the current "no speed restriction" for watercraft on Lake Alva to a regulation that would require operation at a "no-wake" speed year-round.

## Q: What was the public's response to the original proposal?

**A:** A majority of people supported the proposal but comments also showed that there are significant numbers of people who would be impacted by a change. FWP received approximately 200 comments on its original proposal, and after analysis asked the Fish & Wildlife Commission in August to seek additional public input on an alternative option.

#### Q: What is the alternative option out for comment right now?

**A:** The alternative option would allow watercraft to make wake from Aug. 1 through Labor Day. During the rest of the year, any type of watercraft could operate on the lake as long as they use a "no-wake" speed.

## Q: Why is FWP asking for more comment on an alternative option?

**A:** The alternative option is an effort to see if there is a compromise that more people would support. We learned from our own experiences and through public comment that overall use and conflict is the greatest during the summer season. The additional alternative splits the summer season into no wake and wake periods. The alternative allows a wake during the latter part of summer after loon nesting season ends (around July 15).

# Q: Why not regulate wake by the time of day?

**A:** We strongly considered this. However, enforcing time of day regulations is very difficult. Time is effectively enforced when a warden is present to make sure the regulation is followed. Actual time is often disputed by users and leeway for accuracy has to be considered.